Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan: പൊതുജനങ്ങൾ ഈ ജോലി തീക്കാൻ തയ്യാറുണ്ടെങ്കിൽ ഇതിലേക്കനുവദിച്ചിട്ടുള്ള പണം അവരെ ഏല്പിക്കാമോ?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: അവർ സ്ഥലം വിട്ടുകൊടുത്താൽ മതി, ജോലി ഡിപ്പാർട്ടുമെൻറിൽനിന്നും തീർത്തുകൊള്ളാം.

Mr. Thomas Chandy Mukkadan: എന്റെ ചോദ്യം അതല്ല. ഈ പണം അവരെ ഏല്പിച്ചാൽ അവർ ലാൻഡ് അക്വിസിഷനും ജോലിയും നടത്തിക്കൊള്ളാമെന്നു സമ്മതിക്കുന്നപക്ഷം അങ്ങിനെ കൊടുക്കാമോ എന്നാണു.

Paddy Cultivation.

10 [15.] * **Mr. T. Krishna Pillai** (*Kalkulam and Vilavancode* cum *Neyyattinkara*): Will the Government be pleased to state the steps they have taken, and the success achieved so far, to augment the out-put of paddy in the State?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Agriculture*): The question of the possibilities of extending the area under paddy cultivation, along the following lines, is being investigated by a Sub-Committee of the Board of Agriculture in Travancore:—

(1) Additional reclamation from all Kayal and back-water areas;

(2) Conversion of dry lands into wet lands wherever possible in the State;

(3) Conversion of single crop lands into double crop lands, and biennial into annual cultivation, wherever possible and feasible;

(4) Disafforestation of swampy areas without prejudice to forest conservancy.

The same Committee is enquiring into the possibilities of increasing the production of paddy along the following lines:—

(1) Selection and distribution of imporoved strains of seeds;
(2) Judicious manuring;
(3) Efficient tillage, etc.;
(4) Better irrigation facilities.

The report of the said sub-committee in respect of Central Travancore, as approved by the full Board, has recently been received by Government. The enquiries relating to North and South Travancore are pending with the sub-committee.

Government, having recognised that there is ample scope for augmenting the production of paddy in the taluks of Kunnathnad and Parur through lift irrigation from the Periyar by means of the Pallivasal Electric Power, have appointed a Special Committee with a full time Secretary and staff to work out a practical scheme. The Committee has been engaged in the work for the past few months.

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Several suggestions for the extension of the Electric power supply have been put forward. A scheme of demonstrations on the possibilities of converting single crop lands into double crop lands has been approved and one such unit has already been started at Karumalloor, in Parur taluk. It is, at present, too early to gauge the results of the work.

The Department of Agriculture has been conducting several demonstrations every year, in various parts of the State, of improvements upon the cultivation technique followed by agriculturists, with a view to effect increase in the outturn of their crops. A perusal of the administration reports of the Department will furnish more detailed information on the subject.

Kayamkulam-Muttom Road.

11 [24.]* **Mr. K. M. Kesavan** (*Karunagapalli, Karthikapalli and Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertalla*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any sum has been allotted for the current year for gravelling and maintenance of the Kayamkulam-Muttom road ;

(*b*) if so, how much for each item ; and

(*c*) if not, why not ?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: (*a*) No amount has been allotted for gravelling the Kayamkulam-Muttom road for the year 1117 M. E. although there is sanction for a maintenance grant for the same.

(*b*) Rs. 58 for maintenance and nil for works.

(*c*) The question of improvements to the road is being referred to the P. W. D. Advisory Committee.

Bridge at Pathiyoor.

12. [25] ***Mr. K. M. Kesavan** : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether any estimate for putting up a bridge at Pathiyoor to the west of the Pathiyoor temple on the Kayamkulam-Muttom road was called for ;

(*b*) whether it was prepared ;

(*c*) if so, when ; and

(*d*) what action was taken on it ?

Mr. I. C. Chacko: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) and (*d*) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (*b*).

Construction of dams in connection with the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme.

13 [27.] ***Mr. E. K. Kuriyppe** (*Parur, Kunnatnad and Muvattupuzha* cum *Devicolam*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of dams proposed to be constructed by them in connection with the Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Scheme ;

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